

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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O 282321Z JAN 74 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 018376

STADIS/////////
EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NG, PINS
SUBJECT: GON DEMAND FOR PAO RECALL
REF: NIAMEY 287

EYES ONLY FOR CHARGE

1. WE ARE INCLINED TO AGREE WITH YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT MCHALE MUST BE WITHDRAWN AND WILL PROBABLY BE SENDING YOU INSTRUCTIONS TO THAT EFFECT IN ANOTHER DAY OR TWO. IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, SITUATION CONTINUES TO RAISE QUESTIONS IN OUR MINDS WHICH HINDER OUR ABILITY TO DECIDE ON TERMS WE USE IN COURSE OF REMOVING HIM. THERE IS SOME SENTIMENT IN USIA FOR CLOSING THE CULTURAL CENTER AS A RESULT OF THIS INCIDENT. AS YOU KNOW, THIS SENTIMENT COINCIDES WITH EARLIER DISCUSSIONS IN USIA TO CURTAIL AFRICAN OPERATIONS FOR BUDGETARY REASONS. WE WOULD LIKE YOUR ASSESSMENT, IN THIS CHANNEL FOR THE MOMENT, ON DESIRABILITY OF SUCH A MOVE IN RESPONSE TO THE GON ACTION.

2. WE ARE ALSO PUZZLED AT THE GON'S "LOST CONFIDENCE" IN MCHALE. WE HAVE SEEN HIS ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN THIS IN HIS CONFIDENTIAL

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USIAC NIAMEY 286. IS THERE IN YOUR JUDGMENT SOME BASIS FOR DIORI'S ALLEGATIONS THAT THE CENTER HAS THE REPUTATION FOR BEING A GATHERING SPOT FOR "LEFTIST, SUBVERSIVE" ELEMENTS?

3. WHAT WERE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF PAO'S "REFUTATION" TO FON MIN TO WHICH DIORI REFERRED IN PARA (3) OF STATE 287?

4. WE UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT EXISTENCE OF EXTREME GON SENSITIVITIES ON STUDENT ISSUE. ALSO RECOGNIZE VALUE TO DIORI OF BEING ABLE TO POINT TO "EVENHANDED" EXPULSION OF USG OFFICIAL WHEN HE LATER TAKES ON FRENCH AND UNDP.

5. REALIZE PROBLEMS POSED FOR YOU IN MANAGEMENT OF POST BUT YOUR PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL JUDGEMENTS ON THESE MATTERS VITAL TO OUR DECISION MAKING. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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